## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 PA-01 /090 W

-----024361 010617Z /13

R 311552Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8541

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN

SUBJ: CITIBANK LOAN TO ZAMBIA

- 1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, PRESIDENT KAUNDA ANNOUNCED DURING A MAY 26 PRESS CONFERENCE THAT CITIBANK WOULD PROVIDE A \$200 MILLION LOAN TO ZAMBIA. PRESIDENT USED THIS LOAN AS EVIDENCE OF CONTINUING FAITH IN ZAMBIA BY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND PRAISED BOTH CITIBANK AND BANK OF AMERICA FOR THEIR ATTITUDE.
- 2. EMBASSY SURPRISED BY ANNOUNCEMENT GIVEN CITIBANK'S FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH GRZ ON ISSUE OF WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY IN CONNECTION WITH FINANCING OF CHINGOLA TAILINGS LEACH PROJECT. (CITIBANK TOOK VERY HARD LINE DURING THESE DISCUSSIONS AND WE HAD IMPRESSION THEY LEFT WITH SOMEWHAT NEGATIVE OUTLOOK FOR NEW LENDING IN ZAMBIA.)
- 3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY DETAILS ON CITIBANK LOAN PLANS DEPARTMENT MAY BE ABLE TO DEVELOP. WE SUSPECT THE \$200 MILLION FIGURE MAY BE BEING USED SOMEWHAT LOOSELY TO INCLUDE PRESENT COMMITMENTS, ROLLOVERS, SYNDICATIONS, ETC. BY CITIBANK. EMBASSY WILL ALSO ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP INFORMATION FROM LOCAL SOURCES WHEN OCCASION ARISES AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INFORM DEPARTMENT.

LOW

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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